

News Release



NEVADA DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

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For Immediate Release

Cathedral Gorge State Park will celebrate National Public Lands Day with several special events on Saturday, September 25, 2004. National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with three federal agencies and 700 volunteers. Last year nearly 80,000 volunteers worked in 550 locations and in every state. Now, 9 federal agencies and many state and local lands participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands. National Public Lands Day keeps the promise of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the "tree army" that worked from 1933-42 to preserve and protect America's natural heritage.

This annual event:

- Educates Americans about critical environmental and natural resources issues and the need for shared stewardship of these valued, irreplaceable lands;
- Builds partnerships between the public sector and the local community based upon mutual interests in the enhancement and restoration of America's public lands;
- Improves public lands for outdoor recreation, with volunteers assisting land managers in hands-on work.

The activities at Cathedral Gorge will include tree-planting projects in the newly-renovated campground, educational booths for elementary school children, and a managers' project planting sod for a picnic site at the Regional Information Center. The educational booths will include topics such as mine safety, fire safety, Tread Lightly and Leave No Trace programs, GPS and geo-caching, and a special flint-knapping demonstration by Tom DeVuono. All activities and projects will start at 10:00 a.m., with sign-in tables at the park's Group Area. Participants

will receive a t-shirt and lunch in appreciation of their efforts. For more information, call the park office at 775-728-4460, or Ben Johnson (committee chairperson) at Echo Canyon State Park, 775-962-5103.

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